

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

Claims 1-38 (canceled)

Claim 39 (canceled):

Claim 40 (currently amended): ~~The polishing apparatus of claim 39, A polishing apparatus comprising:~~

a polishing platen;

a polishing pad overlying the polishing platen, the polishing pad having a

first polishing region, a second polishing region, and a third polishing region,

wherein the second polishing region lies between the first polishing region and

the second polishing region;

a carrier; and

an alignment detector, wherein the alignment detector is used to align the carrier to the

second polishing region of the polishing pad, wherein the polishing platen is further

characterized as having an alignment knob.

Claim 41 (currently amended): The polishing apparatus of claim ~~39~~ 40, wherein the

alignment detector comprises a laser.

Claim 42 (currently amended): The polishing apparatus of claim ~~39~~ 40, wherein the alignment detector comprises a video camera.

Claim 43 (currently amended): The polishing apparatus of claim ~~39~~ 40, wherein the first polishing region has a first hole density, the second polishing region has a second hole density, and the third polishing region has a third hole density.

Claim 44 (new): The polishing apparatus of claim 43, wherein the second hole density is greater than the first hole density and the third hole density.

Claim 45 (currently amended): The polishing apparatus of claim ~~39~~ 40, wherein the first polishing region comprises a first plurality of holes having a first hole depth and a first hole width, the second polishing region comprises a second plurality of holes having a second hole depth and a second hole width, and the third polishing region comprises a third plurality of holes having a third hole depth and a third hole width.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The polishing apparatus of claim 45, wherein the second hole depth is greater than the first hole depth and the third hole depth.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The polishing apparatus of claim 45, wherein the

second hole width is greater than the first hole width and the third hole width.